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SADDLE UP AND RIDE...

BERRIEN COUNTY YOUTH FAIR THROWS A 'FIESTA'

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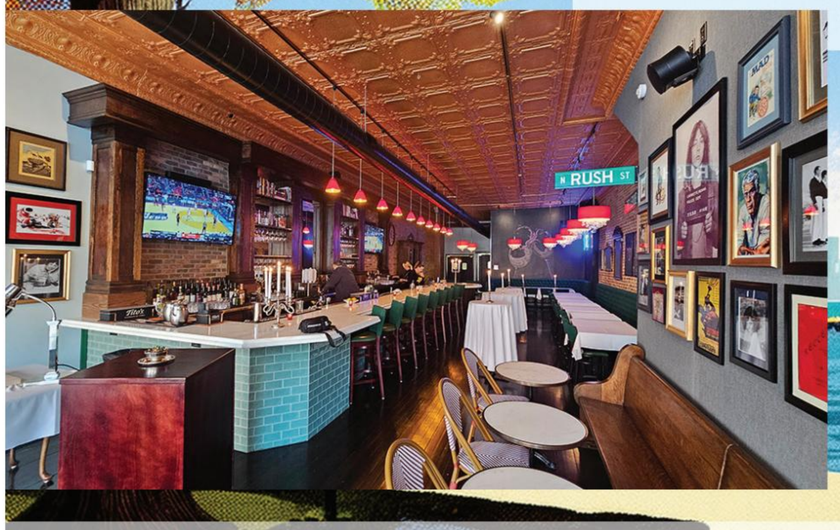

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Berrien County Deputy receives Lifesaving Award

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the Berrien County Sheriff's Office honored the lifesaving efforts of one of their own at the New Buffalo Township Board's Monday, Aug. 18, meeting.

Sheriff Chuck Heit, chief deputy Sean Soulard and Lt. Thad Chartrand of the sheriff's office township patrol were present to present Deputy Sam Whittaker with a Lifesaving Award for his quick actions when 86-year-old Donald Rohe suffered a heart attack Sunday, June 15, in Union Pier.

Chartrand said Whittaker had been assigned to the township's patrol area when he was dispatched to a Fourth Lane residence, where Rohe had fallen and was unconscious in the kitchen.

Whittaker grabbed his equipment from his patrol vehicle and entered the residence, where he observed that Rohe was already receiving CPR. After being advised by the AED, he provided one shock to Rohe. Immediately, he moved onto administering CPR for one minute before the AED asked Whittaker to stop CPR so it could then monitor and then administered a second shock.

Whittaker "continued providing high quality CPR" while paramedics arrived. A LUCAS machine, an automated machine that provides CPR, was applied to Rohe, where more shocks were given by Medic One.

Rohe was transported by Medic One to Franciscan Hospital in Michigan City, where he received further medical intervention. A few days later, Whittaker was told by Medic One personnel that Rohe had regained consciousness and was talking to doctors shortly after.

Chief Deputy Sean Soulard, Donald Rohe, Deputy Sam Whittaker and Sheriff Chuck Heit

"If not for the quick response and lifesaving efforts provided by Deputy Sam Whittaker this incidence may have had a much different outcome," Chartrand said.

Rohe said that, for the last 10-15 years, whenever anyone asked what he wanted for his birthday he always responded, "another one."

"On June 15, the actions of Sam made that possible for me to have my birthday two weeks ago," Rohe said.

Board members adopted a resolution stating that the township will participate in the MEDC Redevelopment Ready Communities Program.

A resolution amending the fire incident cost schedule to reflect recent aid increases was adopted.

A quote from Aetna and payment of $69,700 to Aetna for 410 water meters for the water department, which will be part of their effort to get all the water meters updated to radio read meter, was approved.

A Memorandum of Understanding with New Buffalo Area Schools that states that the township will provide temporary shelter for evacuated students and staff at the public safety building if needed during an emergency was approved.

Board members approved an addendum, which states that fire chief Jamie Flick will serve as the city's acting fire chief and the City of New Buffalo will pay an additional $2,000 monthly retroactive to July 1, 2025, to the current Fire Services Interlocal Agreement with the city was approved.

Board members approved outdoor assembly permits to the following establishments: Seedz Brewery for Oct. 4 from noon to 10 p.m., Urb Cannabis for Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., The Plug for Sept. 20 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Puff Cannabis Company for Aug. 29 and 30 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

A final approval of an SLU to NBMI Retail LLC to operate an adult use marijuana retail establishment at 19839 West U.S.12 was approved.

Heit said that the veterans park, which will be located at the corner of U.S. Highway 12 and Clay Street, will be called Tribute Plaza and that the soil erosion material is up in preparation for its construction to begin. Commemorative engraved bricks that range in price from $50 to $100 for a veteran can be ordered via a form that will be available until Sept. 30 for the park's large section of bricks. Veterans don't need to reside in the city or township.

When I feel anxiety, I ask myself, what is it that I want? For if I did not want something that was outside of my control, how could I still remain in anxiety. — *Dino N. Fatouros*

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
The Board meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

City council appoints interim fire chief

BY THERESE DONNELLY

With the retirement of Fire Chief Chris Huston, the New Buffalo City Council (which had Mayor Pro Tem Roger Lijewski presiding over it in Mayor Vance Price's absence) appointed Jamie Flick to act as interim chief until a permanent replacement can be found at their Monday, Aug. 18, meeting.

Flick, chief of New Buffalo Township Fire Department, was appointed to the city department June 27. As part of the arrangement, the council was presented with an extraterritorial fire service agreement setting conditions for the appointment. Before they voted on it, City Manager Darwin Watson informed the council the Township Board had approved the agreement with amendments changing Flick's monthly stipend from $1,500 to $2,000, effective July 1.

The council voted to table the matter, in light of the new terms.

In 1996, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) contacted the city regarding an underground storage tank at the Street Department's garage on Jefferson Street. Watson told the council that, at the time of that initial contact, the city had complied with prescribed corrective actions before EGLE's 1999 deadline, but the department has been reviewing old files lately and found no record of the required closure report.

Because the city can find to supporting documentation, Watson said, it must now restart the process. As part of this action, the council approved a $48,936 quote from Blue Point, an environmental consulting service, to lead the process.

Mark Seaman, president of Blue Point, told the council the process will take several months, but he does not feel they will need to start over from scratch. He said his company will attempt to locate monitoring wells installed during the initial process and take several borings for soil samples.

In 1996, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) contacted the city regarding an underground storage tank at the Street Department's garage on Jefferson Street. Watson told the council that, at the time of that initial contact, the city had complied with prescribed corrective actions before EGLE's 1999 deadline, but the department has been reviewing old files lately and found no record of the required closure report.

Watson told the council that during recent updates to the water department's the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, the city's its associated communications license for was out of date. In order to fix this, the council approved a quote of $7,571.43 from Gasvoda & Associates to upgrade the system frequencies.

SCADA gathers information from equipment and sensors throughout the water system to provide real-time readings, allowing efficient operations.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources manages boat slip rentals at the municipal marina and recently provided the city with a 2026 fee schedule. Watson said the city needs to approve the waterway rates and inform the MDNR by Nov. 1. The council approved rates.

The council also approved a rate resolution establishing an annual three percent inflationary increase on water and sewer rates through 2029. The approved rate schedule is effective Aug. 1, 2025.

Watson will serve as the city's voting delegate at the Michigan Municipal League's annual meeting in Grand Rapids Sept. 17 -19.

Two city departments received approval to purchase new equipment. The council approved the purchase of ten tires for the fire department's ladder truck, totaling $8,793.84, purchase of a $13,200 back blade and $8967.40 front plow and a $6,540 fan assembly from Hometown Heating and Cooling for the Street Department

On the recommendation of the Planning Commission, the council approved a Special Use Permit amendment for a multi-family dwelling at115 S. Whittaker Street, a site plan for an addition to the existing dwelling at 706 North Drive and a site plan for a single-family dwelling at 326 Marquette and a site plan with conditions that the owner obtain a driveway permit from the city and have the city engineer review and approve the driveway surface material and drainage plan.

The council had its first reading of proposed changes to the Code of Ordinances.

An amendment to Chapter 6 would allow the city to charge emergency response costs to at-fault parties if insurance does not pay.

An amendment to Chapter 7 would reduce the number of members on the Parks Harbor Board from five to three. This measure is intended to make it easier to find residents to serve on the board, and to make quorum to conduct business.

Addressing the council before adjournment, Dan Petersen of the Pokagon Fund announced a change in how the fund awards adult education scholarships. Applications will now be accepted throughout the year, instead of only from the start of the year to March 15, when graduating senior applicants are accepted.

Peterson said the change is being made because adult classes are scheduled on a different schedule to traditional high school classes.

Wisdom begins in wonder. — *Socrates*

Three Oaks Village Council discusses future of Elm Street lot

BY THERESE DONNELLY

While no decision was made at their Wednesday, Aug. 13, meeting, the Three Oaks Village Council is considering the future of a village lot on North Elm Street.

The lot at 112 N. Elm Street is currently being used for public parking, but Bridget Verdun, who owns the adjacent property at 114 N Elm, has asked the council to consider selling her the lot, pointing out the drivers have to encroach on her land to access the parking spaces. She said during sidewalk renovations the village blocked the sidewalk cutaway that gave her vehicle access to her land.

Verdun has said the two lots had historically been one property, but they were split in two before she purchased hers. The village-owned lot is not buildable. Verdun said she is willing to allow neighboring businesses to park in the lot.

Councilmembers agreed they are reluctant to give up any public parking spaces in the downtown, but noted the current configuration is not compliant with village code.

Village President Steve Graziano instructed Village Manager Dan Faulkner to look into the process the village would follow if it does sell the property to Verdun.

Public parking in the downtown is limited. During public comments to the council, Chuck Sittig said the Region of Three Oaks Museum rented Watkins Park for the weekend of the U.S. 12 Heritage Garage Sale and vehicles were in the adjacent lot the entire weekend. Sitting said some of the vehicles had been left for weeks despite a posted restriction on overnight parking except for tenants of the downtown district. He told the council some vehicles had no license plate.

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The council asked Patrolman Jacob Klynstra about parking enforcement. Klynstra said the village police department enforces the winter parking restrictions to ensure safe plowing but is not as strict in enforcing the year-round restrictions since the ordinance's wording would prohibit parking overnight in public lots.

At a previous meeting, the council approved an economic development resolution to join Harbor Country municipalities in hiring an economic developer.

The council approved payments on a $63,410 change order and on a bill from Oselka Construction for $187,500 for construction work.

Mapping of the village water and sewer lines is complete. Councilmember Becky Thomas asked if the maps could be made available to the public, but Faulkner explained a full map is not made public for safety purposes, but specific sections can be available on request.

Work on the wastewater lagoons is progressing. Engineers discovered a crack in a gravity pipe leading into the lagoon, allowing groundwater into the system and taking up lagoon capacity. The pipe will be replaced before construction begins.

The Parks and Recreation Board has spoken to an arborist about the pin oaks in Dewey Canon. Councilmember Mike Springer told the council the trees have deficiency that needs to be corrected, or trees may die. The council approved a treatment plan with C&A Arborists.

Both Abonmarche and Fleis and Vanden Brink responded to the village's request for proposals to do sidewalk landscaping in the downtown. The council decided to wait for a decision from the Downtown Development Authority before approving a proposal.

The council discussed a recent presentation from Changemakers Studio on plans for improvements to Chamberlin Path, adjacent to village hall at 21 N. Elm. While Springer praised the presentation, councilmember Lois Jones thought some of the proposed uses for the space would be disruptive to people coming to the administration building. Thomas added it seemed like 'a lot going on' in a small space and asked if the maintenance would be hard for village staff.

Councilmember John Kramer pointed out the building on the back of the property likely has asbestos and tearing it down for park development might require temporarily vacating village hall.

The council discussed moving park plans to space on the south end of the downtown.

Graziano agreed the south end deserves attention but noted the council does not have to choose between the two ends of town: "It's not north, it's not south, it's Three Oaks."

The council voted unanimously to go forward with Changemakers, including applying for grants for the project.

The Local Revenue Sharing Board has a vacant seat and Graziano asked the council to nominate him to fill the seat. Faulkner said Three Oaks Township supports the nomination. The motion puts Graziano in the candidate pool for the seat.

Councilmembers will meet Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. to amend the 2024-2025 budget and review the proposed 2025-2026 budget. The meeting is open to the public.

The council approved the 2025 holiday schedule and approved the annual Halloween parade for Oct. 31. Trick or treating in the village will be Saturday, Oct. 25, and the council approved a Halloween Spooktacular in Dewey Cannon Park that same day.

The council supported a request to briefly close Elm Street for the River Valley High School's homecoming parade but needs to clarify the date and time of the event.

Surf Internet has been installing lines throughout the village. Faulkner said accidental damage to a section of street has been repaired. While the village received some complaints about littering associated with the installation, Kramer said the crews he had seen even cleared away Miss Dig flags when they finished.

The Hickory Street bridge is expected to be open to vehicles soon, but pedestrian traffic will not be allowed until safety rails are installed.

Faulkner announced Patrolman Jacob Klynstra recently graduated from the State of Michigan firearms training program, which will enable him to train and certify police officers in firearms handling.

Township board approves proceeding with rezoning process of Sawyer Fields parcel

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Upon recommendation from the Planning Commission, members of the Chikaming Township Board of Trustees approved proceeding with potentially rezoning a parcel that would be the site of a potential site condominium from AG to R-1 Residential at their Thursday, Aug. 14, meeting.

Board members approved the motion 4-1, with trustee Rich Sullivan being the dissenting vote.

The proposed development, Sawyer Fields, has been approved by the Planning Commission and would be located just east of Flynn Road on Sawyer Road.

Last month, board members had requested planners investigate if there should be a possible moratorium on site condominiums on AG land. Planners were also requested to review the current zoning ordinance and the project.

After a review at the last meeting, Planning Commission Chair Jim Gormley said that the township's current code doesn't have a specific section on site condominiums; rather, they're regulated "only under the site plan review approval process."

Gormley said "the key feature of regulating site condominiums is what the minimum lot size is in a site condominium" and the development must meet the site requirements of that zoning district. In R-1 Residential, the minimum site size is 20,000 square feet. In AG, the minimum lot size is 10 acres.

"Sawyer Fields came to us, and the bad news is we missed it, we didn't catch the district minimum lot size requirement, and it was presented to us with R-1 specifications - in other words,19 units, 20,000 square foot site footprint," he said.

Gormley said that the single, rather narrow 10-acre parcel runs north and south and abuts R-1.

"If you were going to do expanding residential in Sawyer this is where you'd start," he said.

Gormley added that planners "viewed the project very favorably in terms of providing additional housing on a modest scale within the place the Sawyer community knows where you'd except to see development happen."

Sullivan said he was concerned that, if the rezoning goes through, the owner of the property next door on agricultural land could say that, since they now "kind of, technically abut residential," they may decide to sell their 15 acres and have a condominium development go in there.

"I don't follow that reasoning – I don't think that's appropriate," he said.

Sullivan said that people down the road bought or inherited their pieces of property because they "wanted to live in an agricultural area without a bunch of homes next to them."

He added he has "no doubt" that the homes going into the development will be for second homeowners, which he said isn't currently needed.

Gormley said that just because a property abuts R-1 it "doesn't mean you can build a site condominium with R-1 specifications."

"If they came back and they'd done it right and we'd done it right we would've said 'You can't do this here, you have to get rezoned to R-1 and you have to go through that whole process of rezoning the parcel,'" he said.

Trustee Arthur Anderson, who also sits on the Planning Commission but wasn't present at the last meeting, said that more housing is needed in the township and there's currently limited availability on R-1 land.

In talking with zoning administrator Kelly Largent, he said that that area in Sawyer is "really the only place that's suitable to build a lot of houses."

"It came to us because of water and sewer...You can't willy nilly put site condos anywhere in the township, it has to be somewhere that has access to water and sewer," he said.

Township supervisor David Bunte said that Largent confirmed for him that "anything east of there is literally zero infrastructure capability without putting in the infrastructure in order to connect to the systems," which would be "almost cost prohibitive."

"I think the methodology and what we've asked of you (the Planning Commission) to do and come back to the board and us to make decision and to go through the zoning process or rezoning does, in fact, give the neighboring parcels or owners or people in that area the opportunity for some feedback that maybe didn't occur to date," he said.

Board members approved a change order for the Harbert Park Improvement Project regarding an upcharge for the use of virgin asphalt for the pickleball courts, which is a difference in cost of $1417.50. Bunte said that, while it was discussed with Abonmarche during the bid process that the best product for the courts is virgin asphalt, it wasn't included initially.

Board members accepted a revised proposal from Wightman for $24,800 for the first phase, which would include topography boundary surveys, concepts, planning and design, of the Riverside Cemetery Expansion. Bunte said that Phase Two would involve a construction proposal with bid documents.

The purchase of a replacement camera security system for Township Center for $15,647.82 was approved. Bunte said that the current system is no longer supported and will no longer function properly and that the company that installed it is no longer in business.

Upon request from police chief Todd Taylor, board members adopted a resolution in favor of applying for a $5,000 Michigan Township Participating Plan Grant to assist in the payment of the camera security system.

A resolution that the township accepts the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for Kohn Park as well as for Bunte to sign the grant agreement of the township's commitment to $327,700 and 50 percent match, which has already been raised, was approved.

Board members approved a LWCF Grant Reporting Assistance Agreement with Upland Design, the project's engineer and property management architect on the project.

Board members approved the hiring of Matthew Frecho as part-time firefighter/EMT Basic and Jacob Rydwelski as full-time firefighter.

MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH IN CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP LEAVES ONE PERSON DECEASED

One person is deceased after a vehicle left the roadway on Interstate 94 in a motor vehicle crash in Chikaming Township Monday, Aug. 18.

According to a press release made by Chikaming Township Police Chief Todd Taylor, at approximately 1:06 a.m. Aug. 18, Officer Carson Taylor was dispatched to the crash on westbound Interstate 94 near the 8-mile marker.

"Upon arrival at the scene, Officer Taylor observed that the vehicle had left the roadway on the north (ditch) side and come to rest among a group of trees. The passenger of the vehicle was pronounced deceased at the scene," Taylor said.

The identity of the driver and the deceased passenger are being withheld pending family notification. The incident remains under active investigation.

"Our agency would like to thank the Chikaming Township Fire Department, New Buffalo Township Fire Department, the Berrien County Sheriff's Department, and the Baroda-Lake Township Police for their assistance at the scene," Taylor said. — STAFF REPORTS

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

I went to the ballpark on the southside of Chicago Saturday night to be entertained by an exhibition game between the Savanna Banana's and the Firefighters.

The hot new game is called "Banana Ball" and let me tell you, it's a hoot. The whole experience was a lot.

My gal asked one of her old co-workers and good friend if she wanted to bring her two sons, approximately 10 and 12 to the game with us. She checked with them and the answer was a resounding yes!

Her boys love baseball, and while "Banana Ball" is sort of baseball, it's so much more. Don't get me wrong, I love baseball, and I think the guy behind "Banana Ball" does, too.

Jesse Cole seemed to be thinking "outside the box" and a new game is sweeping the nation. If you think "Banana Ball" isn't popular, try asking the 80,000 people, including many many young men and women, who attended the two games over the weekend at Rate Field.

Baseball's biggest critics say the game is too slow, so "Banana Ball" has a two hour time limit. Once the hitter enters the batters box, he must stay. When a ball is hit, fielders often attempt to make circus catches.

Teams score points by winning an inning. One of the players plays on stilts. If a foul ball is hit into the stands and a fan catches it, the batter is out. Umpires dance and goof around with the players. If a batter draws a walk, he can keep going until every player on the defense touches the ball.

Between innings there is entertainment, including a princess singing.

There is so much going on, it's impossible to keep up with.

On top of all of this, when the second batter of the game came up Saturday night, the sky's opened up. By the time we could head for cover, we were soaked. Standing on the concourse, I watched in amazement as person after person walked around carrying merchandise and eating ballpark food.

When the game resumed, they somehow managed to have ex-White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen argue with an umpire and fan favorite Paulie Konerko pinch hit. On Friday night, Mark Buehrle and A.J. Pierzynski teamed up to get a batter out and Chance the Rapper sang.

Even though the antics were sometimes exhausting, the game sure was fun. We were sitting in the 500 (top) level but somehow, one of the players got up to our level and took pictures and signed autographs with and for the kids.

Initially, I thought this was like the Harlem Globetrotters, but the firemen were good players, too, and the outcome wasn't scripted like the Globetrotters had with the Washington Generals.

Our friend told me today that her kids went to sleep with smiles on their faces, and I had to admit that we did too. What more could you ask for?

Albert Einstein said, "The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge, but imagination."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

High hopes for talented young Raiders in football

BY STAN MADDUX

The upcoming high school football season looks promising for the Red Arrow Raiders despite returning just three starters from last year's varsity squad.

Most of the replacements are players from last year's junior varsity team, which defeated Martin and tied Bridgman, two schools consistently with powerhouse programs.

The Raiders also added players with talent such as Keith Foust, Nick Wolfe and Cooper Lynch, who took one or more seasons off from the game due to injuries or desire to compete in other sports.

"Our cupboard is not bare by any stretch of the imagination," said Head Coach Matt Johnson.

One of the challenges for the Raiders will be at quarterback after losing three-year starter Ethan Lijewski to graduation.

His cousin, sophomore Colten Lijewski, though, seems to have plenty of potential to fill the void with similar arm strength and foot speed.

"Once he grasps the offense a little bit better, I think he's going to be just as dangerous, if not, more than Ethan," he said.

There's been no decision on the starting quarterback but Lijewski, so far, has been taking most of the snaps in practice.

A lot of practice snaps have also taken by Drew Bowen, who Johnson likes for his ability to run the quarterback option.

Returning from last year's starting line-up are offensive linemen Trevor James and Johnny Harrison along with Lucas Forker, a defensive tackle who caught some passes last year as a wide out.

Unlike last year, Johnson said he should have enough depth on this year's roster to keep most players from having to take the field on offense and defense, something he believes will keep the team fresher and more competitive late in the games.

He also spoke highly about the football I.Q. of this year's varsity team and its fierce competitive attitude.

"We have a lot of kids that I think are going to do some really good things for us," he said.

Last year's squad hurt by early season injuries to key contributors won only two games.

Johnson not seeing any major weaknesses right now is hoping to put more games into the win column.

"We're really comfortable where we're at in all positions right now. It's going to be exciting to see how these kids come together," he said.

The Raiders are on the road for the regular season opener Aug. 28 against the Twin City Sharks.

Those who are hardest to love need it the most. — *Socrates*

SCHOOL BUILDINGS TO START REOPENING AFTER BUS THEFTS

School buildings in Michigan City began reopening Wednesday, Aug. 20, after 21 school buses were temporarily disabled from having their catalytic converters stolen.

According to the school corporation, all students were switched to eLearning Tuesday due to a shortage of buses.

Michigan City Police Lt. Steve Westphal said all of the thefts happened overnight at the school corporation's transportation garage at 1100 S. Woodland Avenue.

The discovery was made after an early route driver about 5:30 a.m. started the engine on a bus sounding loud from the catalytic converter missing from the exhaust system.

Westphal said the catalytic converters were likely cut from the buses with a Sawz-All, an electric powered hand-held device with a blade.

Thieves are attracted to catalytic converters because of the copper inside that can be sold as scrap. No arrests have been reported but the investigation is ongoing, police said.

All elementary school and early childhood education buildings reopened the following day while students in the remaining grades again took part in eLearning.

According to school officials, buses from the New Prairie United School Corporation and Warsaw Community Schools were brought in to replace the buses until they're repaired.

"We appreciate the patience and understanding of our families, staff, and community as we work through this unexpected situation," said Megan Daurer, director of communications for the school corporation. — STAN MADDUX

Guilty verdict in foiled murder for hire plot

BY STAN MADDUX

A La Porte man has been convicted of attempting to hire a hit man to murder the mother of his children and her new boyfriend.

Daniel Shaffer, 47, was found guilty Aug. 14 by a La Porte Circuit Court jury on two counts of Level 2 felony conspiracy to commit murder and not guilty on two counts of Level 1 felony attempted murder.

Authorities said Shaffer was in the La Porte County Jail in 2023 waiting for a verdict on prior auto theft and drug related charges when he began talking to a cellmate about wanting the individuals killed over an ongoing child custody battle.

His cellmate told him he knew people on the outside who could possibly carry out the task.

Word of the scheme leaked to authorities, who sent a police officer posing as a hitman to the jail to gauge his level of interest, according to prosecutors.

The undercover officer later took pictures of the man and woman coming to and from their residence and showed the images to Shaffer, who confirmed it was them he wanted killed before an upcoming child custody hearing.

Shaffer agreed to pay $4,000 per body in the form of a down payment and monthly stipends of $200 to $300 until the balance was retired, according to prosecutors.

Eventually, Shaffer appeared to suspect he had been set up when the killings did not occur, according to prosecutors.

"While the jury did not convict on all charges presented at trial, the State of Indiana presented the evidence and met our burden of proof at trial," said La Porte County Prosecutor Sean Fagan.

County prosecutors in Indiana are employees of the state.

Shaffer faces 10 to 30 years on each count. A sentencing date has not been set.

Chicago muralist leaves her mark in La Porte

BY STAN MADDUX

An artist from Chicago painted the latest in a growing number of murals in downtown La Porte.

Cheri Lee Charlton is a muralist whose clients include The Girl Scouts of America, Gino's Pizza and the Chicago Fire professional soccer team.

In 2021, Charlton was selected to design and paint a large-scale mural in Morocco to celebrate the 200-year anniversary of relations between that country and the United States.

The new mural depicting the ecosystem of an inland lake with images such as a large frog, turtle, lily pads and dragon flies is on the outside wall at Hotspot Café at 602 Lincolnway.

Owner Charity Hlavsa said she couldn't be happier about how the mural turned out.

"The public response has been amazing. Everybody loves it," she said.

It's the fourth mural to go up in downtown La Porte in recent years from a partnership between the city and Lubeznik Center for the Arts in Michigan City to promote culture and quality of life in the area.

"I'm grateful for the La Porte community. They really come together to embrace the arts," said Janet Bloch, executive director of the LCA.

The Health Foundation of La Porte and the city's Urban Enterprise Association awarded grants to pay for the mural.

Hlavsa said her building was chosen for the mural after she expressed an interest in having one at a time locations were being sought for them.

After ideas were exchanged on what the huge painting should look like, Charlton came back with conceptual drawings of three murals.

The drawing of the mural that just went up was overwhelmingly chosen as a symbol of the city's inland lakes.

"It was a good fit," she said.

Mayor Tom Dermody described the mural as "a perfect example of what can happen when the community embraces such efforts."

Another mural is planned in the downtown sometime this summer or fall.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Only the memories remain

BY ELAINE THOMOPOULOS

While cleaning out my closet, I stumbled upon a forgotten piece of my past: a plain blue three-prong file folder with my eldest daughter's name, Marie, scrawled on the front. Inside, I discovered a plethora of photos of 1970s-style culinary delights using canned peaches. They included peaches and chili, peaches and sardines, as well as peaches and cottage cheese. Little Marie had carefully pasted recipe cards from the Cling Peach Advisory Board onto the pages of this folder when she was in preschool or kindergarten.

I felt like jumping up and down and called Marie to share my excitement. She did not understand why this meager booklet, put together by a child about fifty years ago, brought me so much joy. She could not fathom the overwhelming surge of nostalgia that swept over me.

It brought back memories of me as a young teenager stacking tin cans of Del Monte peaches at Elmhurst Grocerland, my dad's grocery store, and my mom keeping a bunch of these canned peaches in our cupboard, ready for a quick lunch. I especially loved peach halves topped with cottage cheese.

I longed for a taste of the past, so I rushed to the nearest grocery store to recreate this childhood comfort food. The smooth, sweet peaches and cool, lumpy cottage cheese were still available, and I could bring back this part of my childhood any time I wanted.

However, what I miss most are treats that I may never taste again. In the late 1980s, I worked at the Assyrian Universal Alliance Foundation (AUAF). I enjoyed the friendly Assyrian people, many of whom had fled Iraq as refugees. I remember their homemade dishes, one with meat, rice, and raisins, which I tried to recreate at home. I prepared it according to the recipe a co-worker gave me. I traveled to a specialty store in Chicago to buy the spice needed and spent hours preparing it. What a disappointment. It did not taste the same.

Elaine Thomopoulos enjoys peaches and cottage cheese, one of her favorite childhood comfort foods

Another Assyrian delight I crave is kileche, a buttery, flaky cookie filled with dates or nuts that is baked each year to celebrate Easter and Christmas. I had the privilege of witnessing the production of kileches at Tomara's apartment. Tomara cared for my baby Christopher while I worked at AUAF. Tomara, the family matriarch, headed a contingent of family members who assembled scores of these mouth-watering delights, keeping alive the memory and traditions of their homeland in Iraq.

I remember the heavenly scent that wafted from the oven as they emerged, and with each bite, I savored the lingering taste of rosewater and cardamom. Tomara, a generous, kind woman, sent me back home with a big platter of cookies that we enjoyed for days. It is the last time I tasted these treats. Although I tracked down the recipe decades later with help from an Assyrian friend and the Internet, I never tried making these delightful treats.

I also long for my mother's avgolemeno (egg-lemon) soup. The soups I have ordered at Greek restaurants never taste the same as Mom's. My yiayia (grandmother), an immigrant from Tegea, Greece, had taught her how to make it. Mom mixed it with so much love and care that bubbles formed on the top. My kid brother Peter, when I was caring for him while my parents were out of town, complained, "There's no bubbles!" I also miss the bubbles, but most of all, I miss the unique flavor. I have attempted to make it several times. What a disappointment when it turns out to be egg-drop soup, a Chinese dish, not avgolemono.

No matter how hard I try to recreate the dishes I have described, I fail. I have a sinking feeling in my stomach when I realize that I will never taste them again. It is not only that I cannot replicate their taste, texture, and smell, but the dear people who made these treats. are gone. Only the memories remain.

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Hannah Rentas lets Ellis and Ruby Lipskar pet the 3-week-old rabbit in the Wonders of Birth booth

Judging of poultry takes place Wednesday afternoon

Emily Carr poses with Vincent Van Goat

Children show off their goats in the show arena

An afternoon view of the fair's midway

Riders ride in the Equine Complex Wednesday afternoon

Berrien County Youth Fair throws a 'Fiesta'

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

It was a celebration of showmanship, tasty fair food and lively entertainment during this year's "Fiesta at the Fair"-themed Berrien County Youth Fair, which was held at the Berrien County Youth Fairgrounds in Berrien Springs Monday through Saturday, Aug. 11-16.

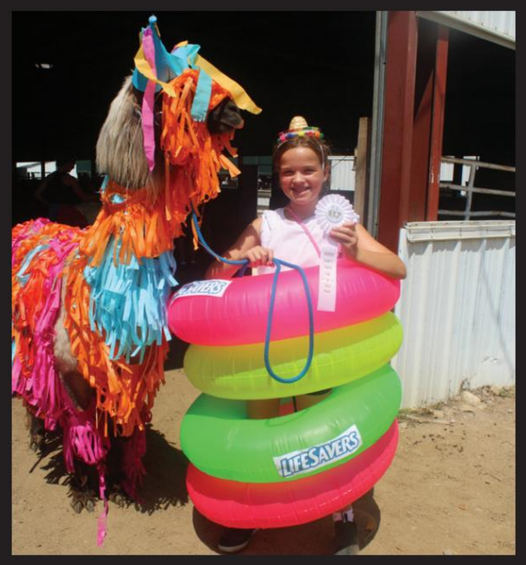
The highlight of the fair were barns and stables full of animals, which included goats, cows, rabbits, swine, sheep, chickens, llamas and alpacas and horses. Local children and their animals participated in a variety of competitions, from equine events to livestock judging, with several winning Championship and Grand Championship trophies. Other children won awards for horticulture and crafts.

In addition to the competitions, there was also a traditional midway, which featured rides and carnival cuisine. Throughout the week, the Grandstand featured special performances, such as music by Cooper Alan and a demolition derby.

The Berrien County Youth Fair was established in 1945 and is open to Berrien County youth

exhibitors who are between the ages of 5 to 20 years old.

Katherine Dixon leads Derby during a judging of the dogs



Addison Leshman participates in the llamas and alpacas costume contest Wednesday afternoon

Andrew Kowalski leads Max during the judging of dogs

Janet Wunderlich demonstrates how to spin sheep wool in the Wonders of Birth exhibit

Harper and Colton Yoder win second and first place, respectively, in the llamas and alpacas costume contest

Riders show off their skills in the Equine Complex

ADULT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION NOW OPEN YEAR-ROUND FOR TUITION AND BOOKS AT COLLEGES, TRADE SCHOOLS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS

The Pokagon Fund is pleased to announce that adult residents within its service area can now apply for scholarships year-round to support their pursuit of postsecondary education and workforce training.

These scholarships can cover the cost of tuition and books at any IRS approved institution. The new application timeline offers greater flexibility and access to learning opportunities for adults at any stage of their educational journey.

The Adult Scholarship Program is part of The Pokagon Fund's commitment to increasing economic and educational opportunities for community members in its service area, which consists of the City of New Buffalo; the Townships of Chikaming, New Buffalo, and Three Oaks; and the Villages of Grand Beach, Michiana and Three Oaks. Whether returning to school to finish a degree, gaining new skills for a career change, or pursuing technical training, eligible adult learners can now apply at a time throughout the that works best for them.

"The Fund recognizes that adult learners have different schedules, responsibilities, and barriers than traditional students," said Dan Petersen, executive director of The Pokagon Fund. "In the past, they had to apply on the same timeline as high school seniors. By moving to a rolling application process, we're responding to their needs and making it easier for them to take the next step toward a brighter future. Our goal is to remove as many barriers as possible for those ready to invest in themselves and their families."

To learn more about eligibility and to apply, visit www.pokagonfund.org/adult-scholarships/.

The Pokagon Fund is a non-profit private foundation made possible by the generosity of The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and is dedicated to enhancing the lives of residents in Southwest Michigan through grants and scholarship programs. Since its founding, the Fund has awarded millions to support education, community development, and economic sustainability in the region. — STAFF REPORTS

Driver in school bus accident charged with being impaired

BY STAN MADDUX

A Chicago-area man accused of causing a May 8 school bus collision that injured seven junior varsity baseball players and some of their coaches in La Porte County was allegedly under the influence of fentanyl.

That's according to the allegations contained in five additional charges filed in La Porte Circuit Court against Shawn Akison, 41, of Romeoville, Illinois.

The new charges include operating while intoxicated as a Level 4 felony for the catastrophic injuries suffered by then 16-year-old Lucas Bradshaw and operating while intoxicated as a Level 5 felony for the serious injuries sustained by assistant coach Richard Shail.

The team was from New Prairie High School.

Bradshaw, who suffered a brain injury, has since been transferred from Memorial Hospital in South Bend to Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he continues to show gradual improvement at the long-term care facility.

Shail is recovering at home from a broken vertebrae in his back and other injuries.

The additional charges were filed Monday in response to blood test results showing Akison was allegedly under the influence of fentanyl when the box truck he was driving struck the back end of a mini-school bus stopped at a traffic light on U.S. 20 just north of La Porte.

New details from the crash investigation show Akison was traveling at a high rate of speed and using a cell phone when he struck the bus, causing it to flip over.

Bradshaw ejected from the bus was in a coma when airlifted from the crash site and continues to suffer from "limited cognitive ability," La Porte County Police said.

Akison had just fled from police in St. Joseph County, who tried stopping him for reckless driving minutes before the crash.

According to court documents, Akison when asked for his identification after the collision seemed to have trouble focusing and offered slow lethargic responses to questions from law enforcement.

Akison told investigators he did not recall the crash but explained he had been on a long trip in the truck before taking a nap during a seven-hour break in South Bend and was heading back to Illinois with a load of Amazon goods, according to court documents.

He was initially charged with Level 5 felony criminal recklessness.

The remainder of the new charges are two additional counts of Level 5 felony criminal recklessness and Class A misdemeanor operating while intoxicated.

Akison continues to be held in the La Porte County Jail, where his bond as a result of the additional counts was increased from $15,000 to $20,000.

Bradshaw is walking now with just minimal assistance and is speaking in longer sentences but struggles at times with short-term memory, according to the most recent social media post from his family.

Other improvements in Bradshaw cited by the family include the start of facial expressions and improved attention span.

Nancy Shail said her husband recently had his back brace removed after his fractured vertebrae healed and is starting eight weeks of physical therapy.

Shail said her husband is still bothered with occasional pain, though, from his eight ribs, that were broken in the accident.

She expressed shock and sadness at the impaired driving allegations.

"This guy driving under the influence like that just changed a whole lot of people's lives and it was senseless," she said.

A Day in the Life

MAKING A STANDARD CHURCH PICNIC EXCEPTIONAL...

BY LAWRENCE VON EBELER

Some would say that a church picnic could maybe not be so exciting, especially a Baptist picnic. It's not always boring if you have the opportunity to attend the annual summer picnic at Converge Baptist Church held in New Buffalo Township's fabulous picnic grounds. It is an outstanding event that no one wants to miss!

A sing along period started the celebration with a warm collection of old songs that are sung by every attendee to the event and accompanied by the leading voice and guitar of the outstanding Ben Hofkman.

The outstanding location is replete with a lodge- type building with room to seat 200 and a serving kitchen to augment the ease of serving so many. The outstanding grounds are exceptional with bronze statues, and ideal play areas with grass and swings.

The three Pastors were in attendance for this forward church along with parishioners for this once a year party. Guests are asked to bring a passing dish for the extraordinary buffet which starts with servings of extra nice hamburgers and hot dogs as an opening stop for a 50 foot buffet resplendent collection of food. The kids included a large group of teenagers looking cool and having great fun. Small children were a dominating group with their endless playfulness in this ideal setting.

For the spirit of the event, and welcomed one and all, A special guest to the event was the 36 year retired Pastor Emeritorious Jeff Dryden home from his voluntary overseas missionary work and looking tan and tawny.

Several of us crippled folks were in attendance including yours truly with our walkers and given special treatment while filling our plates to the brim.It was an event to remember for decades and no one could deny its special niche in our memories.

Calm clouds after the storm

PHOTO BY KRISTIN E. FATOURIS

Twilight is the threshold—the time when your eyes adjust to the dark, and your intuition adjusts to the light. The sun has just slipped below the horizon, but its light still scatters across the atmosphere in violet and gold. This is called the blue hour—when wavelengths stretch longer, and your nervous system slows to match. So, maybe you'll remember to look at the sky and make a wish, or just breathe. This is the hour between worlds—where science meets soul.

Sunset Series by New Buffalo Times*: Inspired by Light & Science*

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
***NEW BUFFALO TIMES* ✹ SUNSET SERIES**

The sun sets on all of us — wherever we are in the world. But there's something about pausing to watch it that feels both universal and deeply personal.

Here in New Buffalo, we've been captivated by the light over Lake Michigan, and we know many of you have your own favorite sunset views — whether it's right here at home or from a far-off shore.

We're inviting you to share your most breathtaking sunset photos with us. Each week, our Sunset Series will feature one image and a short reflection — a chance to pause together and appreciate the simple, stunning magic of day's end.

Send your photo, the location, and a few words about what it meant to you to: info@NewBuffaloTimes.com with subject "Sunset Series".

We welcome submissions from everywhere — with a soft spot for those taken right here in New Buffalo and along the lakeshore.

Let's create a shared gallery of light — a reminder that the sun's setting is not an ending, but part of the rhythm we all live by. — KRISTIN FATOURIS

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PUBLIC NOTICES are an effective way for agencies of government to make official announcements.

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Nearly two-thirds of active Michigan voters* would be concerned if government placed these notices on websites because important information could be concealed from the public.

* EPIC-MRA 2011

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This newspaper supports your right to know.

Wheat trial results now available to Michigan growers

BY STAN MADDUX

Michigan wheat growers can get a glimpse of the varieties they might want to plant this year to achieve the best results in terms of disease resistance, quality and yields.

The Michigan State University 2025 Wheat Performance Trial results contained in a 13-page report are now available at miwheat.org.

The results are from the commercial and experimental varieties of wheat tested in 2024-25 at seven sites across the state under the direction of MSU wheat breeder Dr. Eric Olson and MSU wheat systems specialist Dennis Pennington.

This year's trials included 100 wheat varieties comprised of 55 commercially available and 45 experimental lines supplied from 11 seed companies and MSU's wheat breeding program.

"Bringing new wheat varieties to market and giving our producers a sense of confidence in new seed lines has been a consistent top priority for Michigan's wheat farmers," said Jeffrey Krohn, chairman of the Michigan Wheat Program.

Krohn is also a wheat producer from Owendale in the thumb section of the state near Lake Huron.

The wheat performance trials have been conducted by MSU for over 30 years.

For over a dozen years, the Michigan Wheat Program, a not-for-profit organization using check-off dollars to promote the state's wheat industry, has contributed funding and other resources for the trials.

The organization provided $44,000 to the program last year, said Michigan Wheat Program Executive Director Jody Pollok-Newsom.

She said her office receives a lot of calls each year from producers wanting to know when the trial results will be posted so they can begin deciding the varieties to plant in September and October.

In Michigan, a vast majority of wheat is planted during those two months for harvest during the following summer.

"I think this is a huge help for growers as they're trying to make those variety decisions," she said.

Before the Michigan Wheat Program became involved, trial results were based on varieties grown without much, if anything, added to the soil.

Nowadays, the trial results also reflect how seed varieties respond to extra nitrogen and other applications or practices typically used by farmers in their own fields to achieve the best results with the dollars provided by the Michigan Wheat Program.

"You can see what the baseline is and what it would do under high management conditions," she said.

Check off money is derived from fees every grower pays based on yields when selling their crops.

"Investing in this research helps our wheat growers keep advancing in yield and grain quality, which were founding principles for our check-off program," Newsom said.

The MWP, whose priorities include research on wheat production practices and grower education, is funded by about 8,000 farmers growing wheat in at least 78 Michigan counties.

According to USDA, Michigan is forecast to be the tenth leading producer of wheat in the nation this year at 43 million bushels.

Kansas is projected to be the top wheat producer in 2025 at 351 million bushels.

Washington and Oklahoma are predicted to be next in wheat production at more than 100 million bushels this year, according to USDA.

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

Thoughts on Final Approach

So I was nicely ensconced in Seat 2-A on what was a relaxing flight. But as we were on final approach to Cleveland Hopkins Airport I grew tense. This would be my first time meeting executives at a major toy company and Iwas a little nervous.

I was glad I had the opportunity to meet Judy Price, CBS' VP of Children's Entertainment. Meeting Judy was like meeting royalty. She really was "The Great and Powerful Sorceress of CBS".

The thing about Judy – and it was the thing about a lot of powerful people – was that she was a nice person; at least she was nice to me. She was welcoming and engaging with a new, young writer. She reminded me of the strongman in author Alistair MacLean's novel, Circus. Of the strongman, MacLean said, and I paraphrase, "The strongman smiled because he had long since lost the need to frown. "

Judy was like that.

The plane's tires screeched as they hit the tarmac and I couldn't help but wonder what the Those Characters From Cleveland's executives were going to be like. Would they be welcoming and engaging with a new, young writer as Judy had been? Or would they be haughty, condescending and critical?

Unquestionably, they had the power to be whatever they wanted to be. In the 19th century, Lord Acton wrote, "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. "If Judy Price was "corrupt", she never showed it to me. She'd only been benevolent, encouraging and welcoming. I hoped Those Characters From Cleveland'sexecs were cut from the same Royal Purple cloth as she was.

In the United Airlines terminal I saw Andy walking toward me. He smiled, at ease. As we headed toward the exit he asked if I had a good flight. I said I did, but neglected to mention I managed to get upgraded to first class. No sense pushing a good thing.

A man in a black suit and tie by the exit door, was holding a sign that reads "HEYWARD".

Outside, we got into a black Lincoln Town Car – Andy really liked black Lincoln Town Cars. As we pulled into traffic, I considered asking Andy if he had any advice for the meeting but I knew that would have been a mistake. He expected me to know what to do by now. The upside was that this time he didn't say, "Just try to sound intelligent. "

We pulled up to Those Characters From Cleveland's unimposing headquarters building, walked inside and checked in with the receptionist. An attractive woman in her twenties – I'd learned people working at entry level jobs in the entertainment business were always attractive women in their twenties —led us to the back offices.

She opened a door to a large conference room where 11 executives were seated around a long table. In unison, they all turned to look at us.

In a low voice, I asked Andy, "Who are they?"

Andy nodded to the man at the head of the table and said, "He's the President of Those Characters From Cleveland." He looked to the others and, in an equally low voice, added, "The rest of them each represent a different Care Bear. "

My voice dropping even lower, I told Andy, "We're in trouble now..."

I wasn't sure, but out of the corner of my eye I thoughtI saw him smile.

HOROSCOPE

AUGUST 21-27, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

You're not one to make a scene when it comes to matters of the heart, but this week it is important to put your feelings out there. Don't be afraid to wear your heart on your sleeve, let your guard down, and open up that emotional closet. If you care, show it, or you just might lose it.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

This week you will feel like your home-life is back to normal. You will feel like you can finally relax and indulge in some free time. A nice romantic dinner at home could be just what the doctor ordered. It's time you made yourself feel loved and pampered. Order in if you don't cook.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

Finally, you can enjoy a little down time. It is important you slow things down, and do some proper nesting. Get the comfy cloths on and put on the t.v. Whatever you do to relax, do it. Turn your maternal energy inward and put yourself first. Staying at home can be a good thing, once in a while.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

Creating stability, and making sure you feel safe are number one this week. Keep your mind set on achieving solid foundations that you can fall back on. You might have to step out of your comfort zone to achieve the type of security you need, but it will prove worth the effort. Don't settle.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

Like most people, you have your eye on the prize, but unlike most, you are ready to put in the hard work to get it. Not many of us can work or focus as hard as you do. The key is to keep your mind positive and don't fall into the stinking thinking hole. Oh, my Lions, you are stronger than you know.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

Remember that every human wish is ultimately fulfilled. The problem is that it is not always in the time frame we imagine. Things come to fruition in Divine time, when the moments are ripe. Patience is important here. Put it out there and let it go, trust that things will happen when it's right.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

It is important you loosen your grip and release people and situations that are not serving you. Sometimes we have to push delete. Some people should be un-friended. It is hard to walk away, but some things are just a waste of time. Look hard Libra, be honest and walk away if need be.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

Lighten up a little, would you. You may not realize how intense you can be in certain situations. Granted some things like paying bills, yes be serious, but choosing a place for dinner should not require an hour-long discussion. Let your hair down, get some sun, enjoy the night life, cut it loose.

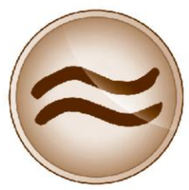
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

Get ready Archer, this is the week you can get ahead of the competition. Put in the long days and get it done. When you see a chance to make a move, do it. Your aim is on, baby. Put yourself in the driver's seat and steer your life into the future. Trust your instincts and take the chance.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

Get the travel brochures out and make a plan to explore. If you can't take an extravagant trip, get out and mingle. Go somewhere where you can experience some different cultural influences. Break out of your routine and put on your rose-colored glasses. Life is a journey, not a destination.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



Whether you'd like to admit it or not you have a lot if emotions to process. Any jealousy or betrayal issues should be met head on. Do not sweep your feelings under the rug and act like nothing is wrong. Take time to honor your feelings and talk about it. If needed, seek out a good therapist.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

Your home and social life are about to take a nice turn for the better. If you have been let down before know this time it will be different. You are not here alone. This week that should become very apparent. Keep your heart open. Let some friendship blossom. Did I mention your other half is here?

What I like to drink most is wine that belongs to others.
— Diogenes

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

	3					7		1
		1				5		
		7		4	5			
		5	4		1			
		4	5	9	6			
							9	
4				5	2	1		3
2			3					6
		9		1				

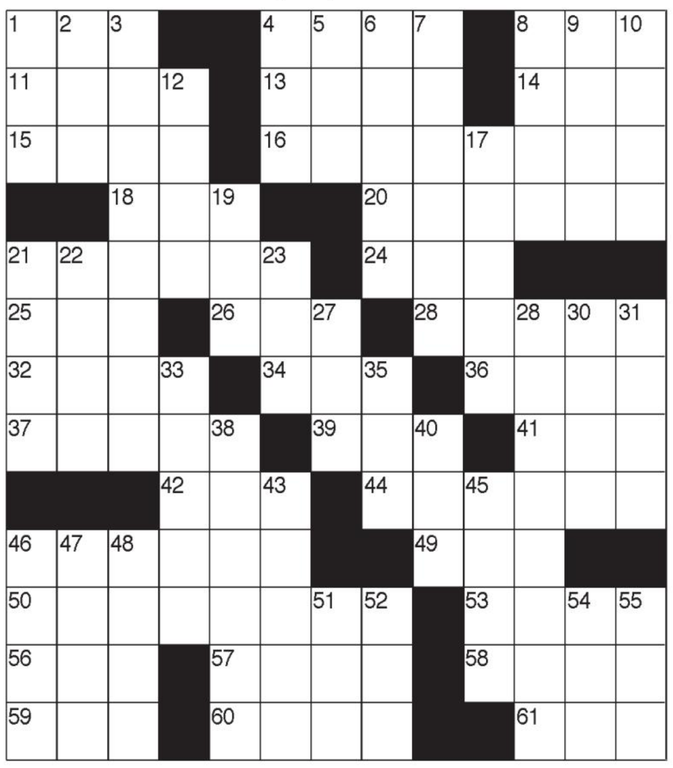
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Civilian Conservation Corps (abbr.)
4 Bean cheese
8 Label
11 Glass (pref.)
13 Twist
14 River (Sp.)
15 Zulu warriors
16 Sneaking
18 Retail liquor dealer (abbr.)
20 Measuring instruments
21 Without a country
24 Fortunate (India)
25 Receipt (abbr.)
26 Disseminate
28 Arrange as hangings
32 Occipital protuberances
34 Federal Bureau of Investigation (abbr.)
36 Ancient Gr. city
37 River into the Rhone
39 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (abbr.)
41 Illicit drug
42 Compass direction
44 New York river
46 Characteristics
49 Grand Old Party (abbr.)
50 Backward
53 Become insignificant
56 Civil Aeronautics Admin. (abbr.)
57 Airplane
58 Pounds per sq. inch, diff. (abbr.)
59 Soviet Socialist Republic (abbr.)
60 Attention getting sound
61 Spring

DOWN

1 22nd Greek letter
2 Cymric (abbr.)
3 Strauss opera
4 Township (abbr.)
5 Propel
6 Jumping amphibians
7 Up
8 School course (abbr.)
9 Senior (Fr.)
10 Swamps
12 Bagpipe hole
17 Shrine (Fr.)
19 Some (Fr.)
21 Sister of Ares
22 Ohio city
23 Defense (abbr.)
27 Boxing org.
29 Cenis (2 words)
30 ____ Rivera, CA
31 Television channel
33 Girl's name
35 Legendary Celt
38 Noose
40 Reek
43 Colorado park
45 Cup to hold a gem
46 Muscular spasms
47 Royal Naval Air Service (abbr.)
48 Caucasian language
51 Hesitation sounds
52 Iota
54 Edge of crater
55 Girl's name



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To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

HEALTH BENEFITS OF CRUCIFEROUS VEGETABLES

These are vegetables from the brassica family that include broccoli, cabbage, Brussel sprouts, kale, mustard greens and cauliflower to name a few. They have special compounds within them that offer a host of health benefits when eaten regularly.

It would be hard to find a single food group that provides broader "all systems" support than the cruciferous vegetables. They are excellent sources of vitamins K, C, and A, as well as folate and electrolyte minerals like potassium, magnesium and calcium. This food group shines not only in terms of its vitamins, minerals, fiber and proteins, but they also contain phytonutrients that play a in our overall vitality. Some nutrients that are only exclusive to this group.

No other group of foods has a better track record when it comes to cancer prevention. Cruciferous vegetables are well studied for their cancer-fighting properties. The glucosinolates and isothiocyanates, especially sulforaphane, have been shown to help protect cells from DNA damage, inhibit tumor growth, and promote the death of damaged cells.

This group also supports our bodies inflammation system. Any time our body is faced with injury (whether it be physical or chemical), our inflammatory system kicks in and increases blood flow to the injured area, sends healing substances to the site of injury. It then coordinates the response of other body systems in dealing with the threat to our health.

Cruciferous vegetables help support our body's detoxification. Most toxins that are present in our body must be eliminated from our body in order for us to stay healthy. Prolonged exposure to toxins is a risk factor for many chronic diseases, including cancers. Due to their high source of dietary fiber, which aids in digestion, and promotes satiety, they can be a huge benefit to weight management.

Cruciferous vegetables also show great benefit to the cardiovascular system. The anti-inflammatory properties of cruciferous vegetables, along with their unusual concentration of folic acid, combine to make this food group protective against atherosclerosis, heart attack and stroke. Due to their high sources of B vitamins and especially folate, they can be noted as brain help.

The concentrated fiber or roughage content of cruciferous vegetables, makes this food group a natural for digestive system support. It's unusual to see 100 calories of any food providing nearly half of the daily value for dietary fiber. But that is precisely the case for most cruciferous vegetables. Few foods can make as outstanding a contribution to your daily fiber intake as the brassica family. It has even shown that they help regulate H-Pylori Bacteria that causes ulcers, and protects the stomach wall.

Research reports that consuming cruciferous vegetables can lower the risk of various chronic diseases, including heart disease, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol.

Cruciferous vegetables can be enjoyed raw, steamed, roasted, or added to soups and stews. To retain the most nutrients, it's recommended to consume them lightly cooked or raw.

Without regular intake of cruciferous vegetables in your diet, your body systems will be missing out on some of the best-researched disease prevention foods.

PET OF THE WEEK

SNUFFLE-UPAGUS

Snuffleupagus wants to be your next best friend. He is around three-months-old, and very curious to discover his new world. He is at a foster home, so you will need to to contact the shelter to meet him. Snuffleupagus is tiny, but neutered with his vaccinations up-to-date. He will warm up to you, as he he's shy at first. Snuffleupagus will climb on you, and could become your next lap cat. Make Snuffleupagus part of your home today.

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LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

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A crowd gathers in front of Airey Financial Group

Joey DiMaggio (center) cuts the ribbon on Airey Financial Group in New Buffalo

Ribbon cut on new Airey Financial Group location

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Airey Financial Group was welcomed to New Buffalo when the ribbon was cut at its newest office at 18605 West Buffalo Street (U.S. Highway 12) Friday, Aug. 15.

According to a press release, the family-owned firm, which was founded in 1997 by Tony and Genay Airey, has now grown into a team of over 35 financial professionals serving clients across Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin.

"At the Airey Financial Group, they believe that financial success isn't one-size- fits-all. Guided by principals of honor, trust, stewardship, and integrity, they take a holistic, personalized approach to each client's financial journey," the release said.

Joey DiMaggio, the local financial professional, will help "clients navigate everything from retirement solutions to long-term financial strategies - built around their unique needs and goals."

Kimberlee Wendt, executive director of the Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce, said that DiMaggio, who's also a sailor and commadore at the New Buffalo Yacht Club, is "ingrained in this community" in many ways.

"We know the excellence that Joey will bring as the financial advisor to anything he has tackled here and are very confident that Airey Financial Group will be a success as he guides his neighbors in financial decisions," she said.

Angelo Chicco provides entertainment

DiMaggio said he feels "blessed" to be able to come to work every day with friends, whom he's known for more than 25 years.

"I am incredibly, incredibly honored to be a part of the Airey Financial team, the company - I am so excited to be in this area to offer our services," he said.

DiMaggio said that Airey isn't "cookie cutter."

"If you know me, you know that I actually love people, I love to talk, I like to help people, I want to take care of you, I want you to be happy - that's what we do, we're independent, we can do anything you need and we have a whole chest of tools in our toolbox," he said.

DiMaggio along with Genay Airey and Tony Airey, are Registered Representatives of and offer securities through OneAmerica Securities, Inc., a Registered Investment Advisor, Member FINRA, SIPC. Genay Aireyis an Investment Advisor Representative of OneAmerica Securities. Airey Financial Group is not an affiliate of OneAmerica Securities and is not a broker dealer or Registered Investment Advisor.

To contact Joey DiMaggio, Airey Financial Group - New Buffalo, call 269-205-3005, email jdmaggio@aireyfinancialgroup or visit www.aireyfinancialgroup.com.

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